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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

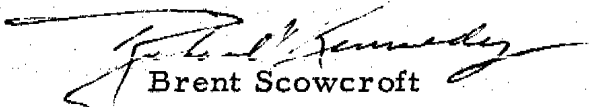
July 18, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR

Major General John A. Wickham, Jr.
Military Assistant to the Secretary
of Defense

SUBJECT: Significant Military Exercise PHIBLEX 2-75

Significant military exercise PHIBLEX 2-75 should not be scheduled or undertaken at this time.


Brent Scowcroft
Major General, USAF
Deputy Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

OSD REVIEWED 15-Mar-2011: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION.

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

~~2745~~

2745

July 10, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

GENERAL SCOWCROFT

FROM:

HENRY R. APPELBAUM *Ha*

SUBJECT:

Significant Military Exercise
PHIBLEX 2-75

The memorandum at Tab B requests approval of an amphibious training exercise to be conducted August 20-30 by US naval and Marine forces and Greek forces in a coastal area of southwestern Greece. The critical date for cancellation is July 20. I see no reason not to approve.

RECOMMENDATION: That you sign the approval memo at Tab A.



CONFIDENTIAL
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

3 JUL 1974

DECLASSIFIED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY
AFFAIRS

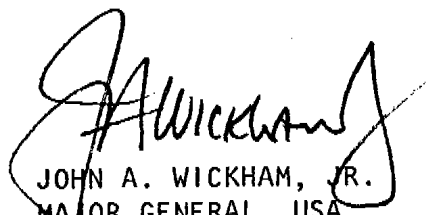
SUBJECT: Significant Military Exercise PHIBLEX 2-75

Three copies of a brief on the significant military exercise PHIBLEX 2-75 are forwarded for approval in accordance with NSAM 316. This exercise has been coordinated with the State Department and the US Information Agency. They have raised no objections.

A summary of the politico-military scenario for this exercise appears at paragraph 8 of the brief.

The recommended general public information policy is set forth in paragraph 14 of the exercise brief.

Please note that the critical date for Presidential cancellation is 20 July 1974.


JOHN A. WICKHAM, JR.
MAJOR GENERAL, USA
MILITARY ASSISTANT

Enclosure
a/s

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

UNCLASSIFIED WHEN ATTACHMENTS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

4 June 1974

UNITED STATES EUROPEAN COMMANDBRIEF OF A SIGNIFICANT MILITARY EXERCISE

1. (U) Name of Exercise: PHIBLEX 2-75.
2. (C) Type: Amphibious training exercise.
3. (C) Aims: To exercise Sixth Fleet amphibious squadron and embarked Marines and to conduct combined operations with a unit of the Hellenic Armed Forces.
4. (C) Dates: 20-30 August 1974.
5. (C) Critical Date for Presidential Decision to Cancel Exercise: 20 July 1974.
6. (C) Political Implications:
 - a. United States provide forces listed in paragraph 10a.
 - b. Date Commitment Made: 4 May 1974.
 - c. Other Political Implications: None.
7. (C) Geographical Area: Gythion, Greece.
8. (C) Politico-Military Scenario: Brief Outline: Task Force 61 and Task Force 62 will conduct an amphibious assault landing with maneuvers ashore and reembarkation. Advance operations will include combined underwater demolition team (UDT) operations, surface reconnaissance and liaison ashore. Post assault operations will include troop bivouac, maneuvers and training ashore. Naval gunfire support, artillery and close air support will be simulated. There will be no live firing. Twelve Greek UDT personnel will participate for the purpose of cross training.

DECLASSIFIED

Classified by USCINCEUR
 SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
 SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
 AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
 YEAR INTERVALS
 DECLASSIFIED ON DECEMBER 31 1980

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9. (C) Directing Headquarters: Commander Sixth Fleet
10. (C) Participating Commands, Headquarters and Forces:

a. United States.

USNAVEUR: 2 destroyer escorts
5 amphibious ships
1 Marine Amphibious Unit (approximately
1700 Marines)
Support shipping as assigned

b. Allied Forces: Participation by Hellenic UDT personnel has been approved.

11. (C) Scope of Anticipated Participation:

a. Other Unified or Specified Commands: None.

b. Unassigned Forces of the US Military Services: None.

c. Allied Nations: None other than those Greek personnel identified in paragraph 10b.

12. (C) Simulated Use of Nuclear Weapons: None.

13. (C) Other Coordination: Chief, Joint US Military Group-Military Assistance Advisory Group, Athens, Greece, has been requested to coordinate with Greek officials to obtain clearance to conduct the exercise.

14. (C) Recommended General Public Information Policy:
Recommend that Public Affairs treatment of Exercise PHIBLEX 2-75 be passive and low key.

a. No initial news release will be made. If queried, propose answering, "Units of the Sixth Fleet will be participating in an amphibious training exercise during the period 20-30 August 1974, at Gythion, Greece." There is no objection to identifying Sixth Fleet units.

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b. Feature-type releases to media in homeports of participating units, to internal media and to the fleet hometown news center are authorized after exercise commences. There is no objection to the identification of US Forces involved after the exercise commences.

c. No follow-up releases are planned or authorized and responses to follow-up queries will emphasize that this is another in the series of routine amphibious exercises.

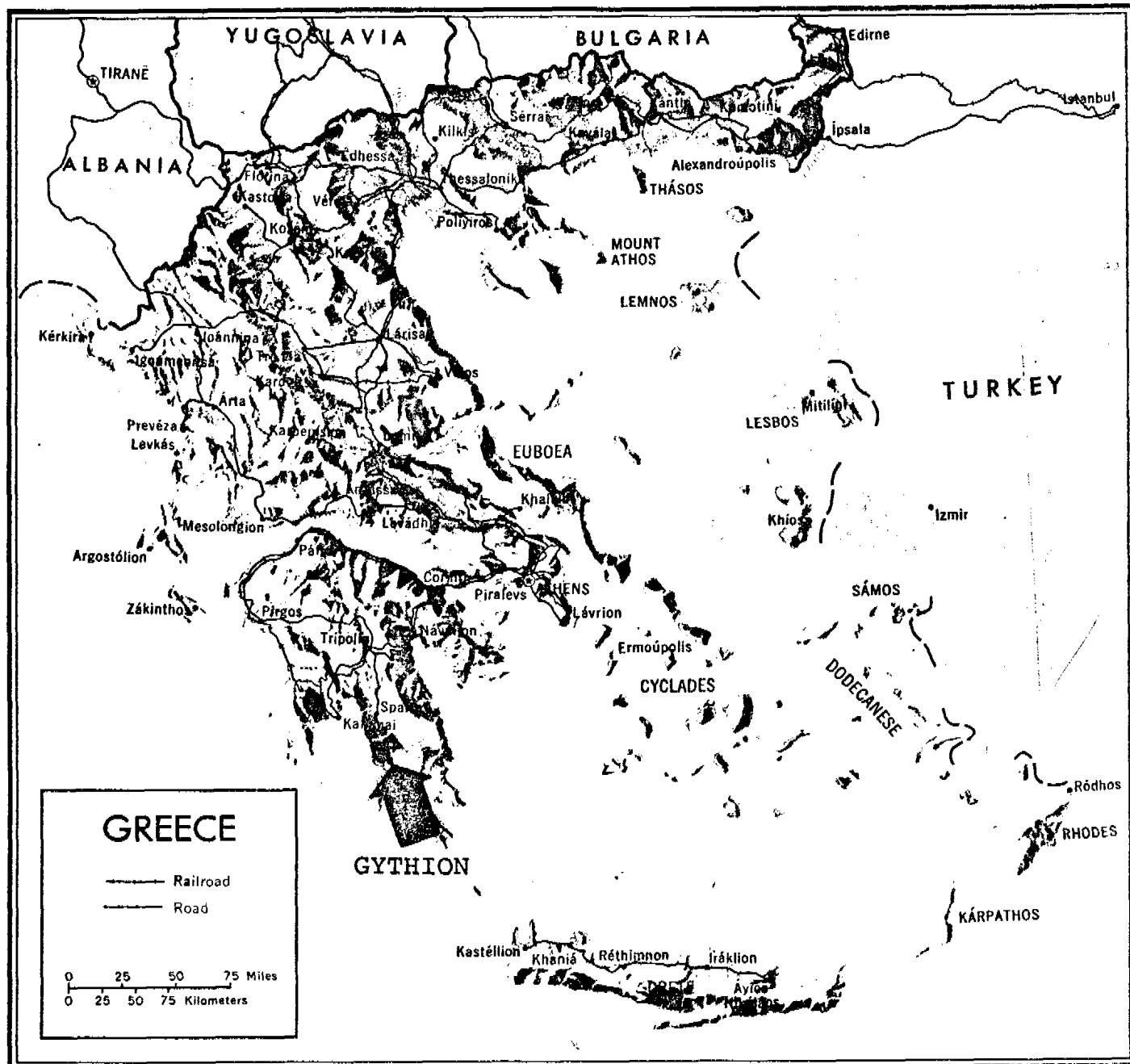
15. (U) Other: Total US personnel: 3987 (2287 Navy and 1700 Marines).

Prepared by:

Cdr J. M. Quin, Jr., USN
EUMEAF Division, J-3
Extension 74064

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2745 (Rewrite)

July 18, 1974

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Major General John A. Wickham, Jr.
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Significant military exercise PHIBLEX 2-75 should not be scheduled or undertaken at this time.

Brent Scowcroft
Major General, USAF
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for National Security Affairs

Rewrtn: RTK/lds/7-18-74

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR

John A. Wickham, Jr.
Major General, U. S. Army
Military Assistant to the Secretary
Department of Defense

SUBJECT: Significant Military Exercise PHIBLEX 2-75

The significant military exercise PHIBLEX 2-75 is approved.

Brent Scowcroft
Major General, USAF
Deputy Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs